

12.3.54



LONE STAR NORTHWEST

5975 E. MARGINAL WAY SOUTH
P.O. BOX 1730
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98111
(206) 764-3000

October 10, 1990

RECEIVED

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DEPT. OF ECOLOGY

Mr. Norm Peck
Washington Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
4350 150th Avenue NE
Redmond, Washington 98052

Dear Mr. Peck:

I am writing to inform your agency of a condition which exists at a property owned by Lone Star Northwest. The property is located at 5900 West Marginal Way in Seattle.

During the course of a site characterization study of the property it was discovered that one ground water sample contained elevated levels of pentachlorophenol. The initial round of tests, taken in late May of 1990, were repeated in June and late July to verify the first sampling. In each case, the concentration of pentachlorophenol was found to be between 2800 and 3000 parts per billion. Additional test wells on the property showed no indications of pentachlorophenol.

It is my desire to first inform you of this discovery, and second to arrange an opportunity to present our cleanup proposal to address this situation. It is our intention to take a very direct approach towards cleaning up this condition on our property to meet the State's standards, and I would appreciate any comments you may have on this matter.

At your convenience, please let me know when I can meet with you to discuss our proposal. I am seeking an opportunity to begin our cleanup as soon as possible. My telephone number in Seattle is 764-3032.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

LONE STAR NORTHWEST

Ed Owens
Vice President, Staff

EO:lm



POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION
STATE OF WASHINGTON

AN INVESTIGATION OF POLLUTION
In the
GREEN -- DUWAMISH RIVER



TECHNICAL BULLETIN NO. 20
SUMMER, 1955

National Steel Construction Co., 500 Myrtle St., Seattle - - - Waste from the manufacture of hot water tanks, boilers, etc., consists of acid pickling liquor. At the present time, waste acid is discharged to the river untreated. Neutralization of the acid must be employed prior to discharge.

Kenworth Motor Truck Corp., 8801 E. Marginal Way, Seattle - - - Caustic wash water, acid and oil comprise the liquid wastes from Kenworth. Acid is disposed of on land, and the caustic wash receives a 15 to 1 dilution before discharge. However, an oil separator is needed at this plant to keep excessive oil from entering the storm sewer which ultimately discharges to the Duwamish.

Rheem Manufacturing Co., 3693 E. Marginal Way, Seattle - - - Rheem manufactures hot water tanks and heaters, and liquid waste consists essentially of acid pickling liquor at the rate of 4000 gallons per month. The liquor is neutralized with soda ash prior to discharge to the Duwamish. This method of waste disposal appears to be satisfactory.

A & B Barrel Co., 8604 Dallas Ave., Seattle - - - In the reconditioning and repainting of used barrels and drums, the A & B Barrel Co. uses about one ton per month of sodium hydroxide as a cleaning agent. Liquid waste, including oils, grease and sodium hydroxide is discharged to a small pond and thence to the Duwamish. An analysis of the waste revealed a concentration of 940 ppm NaOH, which in itself, is toxic to aquatic life. Dilution with river water would reduce concentrations to safe levels, but there is undoubtedly a lethal zone in the immediate vicinity of the outfall. Correction should be made either by dilution, neutralization, chemical recovery, or some other adequate waste treatment method.

Northwest Cooperage Co., 7152 1st Ave. So., Seattle - - - The Northwest Cooperage Co. is similar in operation to the A & B Barrel Co., but several times larger. Sodium hydroxide is the principal toxic waste discharged at this plant. Since the outfall sewer is located under a pier, it was impossible to obtain samples of the waste. However, on a comparative basis with findings at the A & B Barrel Co., it would appear that a similar zone of toxicity of larger dimensions exists around the point of discharge. Some procedure of correction should also be established at this plant.

Reichhold Chemical Co., 5900 W. Marginal Way, Seattle - - - The Reichhold plant at Seattle manufactures synthetic resins, formaldehyde, pentachlorophenols and hydrochloric acid. Toxic elements in the liquid waste consist of phenols and pentachlorophenols. During the summer of 1955, live box experiments conducted by the Department of Fisheries revealed highly toxic conditions existing in the vicinities of the outfall sewers on several occasions. The occurrence of these conditions of toxicity coincided with accidental slug discharges within the industry. Immediate corrective action was taken by the industry in the form of a temporary settling basin where toxic elements could be neutralized before discharge. Conditions will be further alleviated here when Reichhold moves its pentachlorophenol plant to a new location elsewhere in the State.